

Duiwenhoks Annual General Meeting

Vermaaklikeid Restaurant, 20 April 2019

Minutes and Action Points

Note: These minutes should be read in conjunction with powerpoint slides presented at the AGM.

1. Chairperson's Report

John Thorne presented the Chairperson's Report (see presentation slides). This included a report back and listing of what had been achieved over the last few years.

ACTION: *Vredesaal requires repair.* Major work will require re-establishment of Community Trust.

2. Financial Report

John Thorne presented financial highlights (see presentation slides).

We have reached the end of the funding cycle and further funding is required. Possible avenues include the Global Climate Facility and the Lottery.

Subscription income so far is R14,500.

ACTION: *Follow up is needed to ensure that all members are paid up.*

3. Other matters raised

Margeaux Newedigate gave a brief report on the state of the river.

ACTION: *It was decided to form a subcommittee to assess and make recommendations on river conservation issues.*

Abie Pretorius gave a brief report back including on the big project at Blombos which is ongoing (8 days/month). The Chairperson urged members to make use of the service offered by Abie and his team.

4. What do we want from the Conservancy?

Rookan Podestra led an exercise in which members formed small breakaway groups to discuss what they would like out of the Conservancy. Groups then presented their concerns/proposals to the meeting.

These included the following:

- The proliferation of unregistered jetties is a problem. Jetties should be registered and make required contributions to Cape Nature.
- We need to find a better way make the Conservancy more representative. For example the community living on Skoolkop need to be better represented and have specific issues, such as the ongoing water problem.
- The closure of the pre-school – discussion was deferred to this specific agenda item.
- Part of the purpose of the alien clearing project is to create much needed employment. It was pointed out that some landowners do not want the work team on their property. This creates a problem as it negates the purpose and makes it difficult to develop the village.
- Every land owner should take responsibility for their land and include employees in land clearing.
- How can the school be made to work better? The Community Trust is not currently working. One suggestion was that the pre-school could be paired with a more affluent school

5. Seven point fire and alien vegetation and alien control plan

This was briefly presented by Anthony Black (see slide presentation)

Specific proposals include a fire break for village as proposed by the Southern Cape Fire Protection Agency (SCFPA) and securing herbicide and training on how to use it.

ACTION: The cost of the firebreak should be borne equally by landowners and it was agreed to draw up a list of landowners from which the individual cost could be derived. A proposal would then be put to landowners to obtain contribution.

ACTION: Engage with SCFPA to secure herbicide and training on the basis of plans developed by landowners.

6. Fire readiness

Tracey Telford outlined the fire readiness plan which includes the following:

- A quick reaction unit
- Equipment including 5 bakkie sakkies in the village and surrounding area
- Working with the SCFPA
- Assistance with controlled burns
- Establishing community of first responders

- Fire training to take place on 17th May

7. School

School funding has declined and children are now going to Riversdale.

The pre-school has proved effective but funding has stopped and new a initiative is required. Lezane Bam outlined the need facing young children in the village and why this was important.

ACTION: New school board to be established to get pre-school up and running.

8. New committee

A new committee was elected as follows:

Duiwenhoks Conservancy Committee 2019/2020			
John Thorne	Chair	0833085954	drjohnthorne@gmail.com
Anthony Black	Deputy chair	0836284405	anthony.black@uct.ac.za
Justine Jowell	Pre-school	0828596333	justine@gem.co.za
Tracey Telford	Fire readiness	0729927659	traceytelf@gmail.com
Margaux Newdigate	River	0827747914	margauxn@gmail.com
Sarah Ward	Membership and contributions	0846067177	caracalward@gmail.com
Abel Pretorius	Alien management	0766289579	abelpretorius13@gmail.com
Anna Miggels	Skoolkop	0719962950	
Anna Philander	Skoolkop	0653973709	
Rookan Podesta	To be confirmed	0827736110	rooken@rookenpodesta.com
Trust representative	To be appointed when Trust is reconstituted		